

Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 IO-14 CG-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 CEQ-02 COA-02 COME-00

EB-11 EPA-04 NSF-04 SCI-06 FEA-02 ACDA-19 AEC-11

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FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0312

INFO USUN NEW YORK 0261

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 1627

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, BB

SUBJECT: LOS: CONSULTATIONS IN BARBADOS

1. SUMMARY. LOS TEAM MET MORNING AND AFTERNOON APRIL 17 WITH BARBADIAN OFFICIALS. MORNING LARGELY DEVOTED TO EXPLANATION OF US LOS POSITIONS ON MAJOR ISSUES. AFTERNOON CONSISTED OF DISCUSSION ON SPECIFIC TOPICS WITH GOB OFFICIALS LIMITING THEMSELVES TO ASKING QUESTIONS. THEIR PRINCIPAL CONCERN SEEMS TO BE ACCESS TO SHRIMP OFF BRAZIL AND GUYANA. CARICOM COUNTRIES CAN BE EXPECTED TO COORDINATE LOS POSITIONS. END SUMMARY.

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2. TERRITORIAL SEA AND STRAITS: BARBADOS WILL SUPPORT

12-MILE TERRITORIAL SEA AND IMPLIED THAT FREE TRANSIT AND INNOCENT PASSAGE CONCEPTS MIGHT BE ACCOMMODATED BY OBJECTIVE DEFINITION OF INNOCENT PASSAGE. STATED ARCHIPELAGOS NOT "BURNING ISSUES" IN LATIN AMERICA BUT APPARENTLY HAD NOT CONSIDERED CONSEQUENCES IF BAHAMAS ADOPTED ARCHIPELAGO.

3. COASTAL SEABED AREA: BARBADOS INTERESTED IN REVENUE SHARING AND MINIMUM ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS BUT UNEASY ABOUT INTERNATIONAL STANDARD REGARDING INTEGRITY OF FOREIGN INVESTMENT. GOB SUPPORTS FREEDOM OF NAVIGATION BEYOND 12-MILES.

4. FISHERIES: BARBADIAN OFFICIALS ACKNOWLEDGED THAT FISHING IS NOT PARTICULARLY GOOD NEAR THEIR ISLAND. THEY EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER WHETHER HIGHLY MIGRATORY PROVISIONS IN US ARTICLES WOULD APPLY TO KINGFISH, DOLPHIN, SWORDFISH AND FLYING FISH WHICH THEY CATCH UP TO 25 MILES OFFSHORE. WITH RESPECT TO FULL UTILIZATION, THEY ARE CONCERNED OVER COASTAL STATE FIXING OF ALLOWABLE CATCH, AND INQUIRED AS TO WHETHER NEGOTIATIONS WOULD HAVE TO BE HELD WITH COASTAL STATES IN ORDER TO GAIN ACCESS AND WHETHER COASTAL STATE COULD DISCRIMINATE AGAINST ANY OTHER STATE ON SECURITY GROUNDS (SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED CUBA). HIGHER PRIORITY IN US ARTICLES FOR TRADITIONAL FISHERIES OVER STATES IN REGION CLEARLY DID NOT PLEASE THEM. THEY WERE STRONGLY INCLINED TOWARD GIVING STATES IN REGION FIRST (AND PERHAPS EXCLUSIVE) PREFERENCE FOR EXCESS ALLOWABLE CATCH. THEY RECOGNIZE THERE WOULD BE GREAT DIFFICULTIES IN REACHING AGREEMENT WITH BRAZIL ON QUESTION OF ACCESS TO SHRIMP. OFFICIALS INDICATED BARBADOS HAD NOT DECIDED WHETHER INTERNATIONAL SOLUTION(I.E. IN LOS TREATY) WAS PREFERABLE TO BILATERAL ARRANGEMENTS. BARBADOS COMMENTS ON THIS ISSUE SIMILAR TO TRINIDAD'S AND AT ONE POINT GOB OFFICIAL REFERRED TO LENNOX BALLAH'S ANALYSIS OF PRIORITY FOR TRADITIONAL FISHING UNDER US ARTICLES. IN REPLY, TEAM INDICATED FURTHER COORDINATION WITH CARIBBEAN STATES ON BASIS OF PRINCIPLE OF FULL UTILIZATION WOULD BE DESIRABLE AND SAID THAT PROBLEM OF PRIORITIES COULD BE WORKED OUT. (TEAM SPECULATES THAT BARBADOS MAY FEEL, OR HAVE BEEN TOLD, THAT BRAZIL WILL TAKE CARE OF THEIR NEEDS, AND THEY WILL BE BETTER OFF WITH NEGOTIATED GUARANTEED ACCESS

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THAN IF THEY ARE FORCED TO COMPETE WITH OTHERS WHO HAVE AN LOS TREATY RIGHT OF ACCESS, SUCH AS US OR CUBA.)

5. MARINE POLLUTION: BARBADOS CONCERNED ABOUT OCEAN POLLUTION DUE TO HEAVY RELIANCE ON TOURIST INDUSTRY. THEY STATED INFORMALLY THAT THEY SUPPORT VERY HIGH INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS FOR BOTH VESSEL CONSTRUCTION AND DISCHARGE. SOME RESERVATIONS WERE EXPRESSED ABOUT IMCO'S ROLE AS THEY VIEWED IT AS BEING

"LOADED IN FAVOR OF MARITIME STATES." BARBADIANS INQUIRED AS TO WHETHER FLAG STATE WOULD BE LIABLE IN EVENT OF DAMAGE FROM MARINE POLLUTION AND INDICATED THEY PREFERRED TO HOLD MALFEASOR DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE.

6. SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH: GOB RAISED USUAL POINTS REGARDING DIFFICULTY OF DISTINGUISHING BETWEEN VARIOUS FORMS OF RESEARCH. THEY SEEMED SOMEWHAT REASSURED BY FACT THAT US PROPOSAL INCLUDED COASTAL STATE RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCH ACTIVITIES ON BOARD VESSEL. AT ONE POINT SENIOR GOB OFFICIAL EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT MILITARY ACTIVITIES BEING MASKED AS RESEARCH. (THIS REMARK, COUPLED WITH COMMENTS ON FISHING, MAY REFLECT POSSIBLE BRAZILIAN LOS LOBBYING.)

7. DEEP SEABED: BARBADOS SUPPORTS APPROACH FOR DEVELOPMENT OF DEEP SEABED WHEREBY ENTERPRISE WOULD ENTER INTO JOINT VENTURES WITH PRIVATE COMPANIES. THEY EXPRESS CONCERN THAT DUAL CHAMBER SYSTEM OF VOTING UNDER US PROPOSAL WOULD ENCOURAGE DEVELOPED VERSUS DEVELOPING COUNTRY CONFRONTATION.

8. DISPUTE SETTLEMENT: BARBADOS FOAVORS SOME MEANS FOR DISPUTE SETTLEMENT MACHINERY. THEY INDICATED SOME UNEASINESS ABOUT RIGHT OF INDIVIDUALS TO SUE. THEY HAVE MADE NO DECISION ON PROCEDURES AS YET.

9. PROVISIONAL APPLICATION: BARBADOS IS INTERESTED IN PROVISIONAL APPLICATION OF FISHERIES PORTIONS OF LOS TREATY, AND SAID THIS WOULD BE NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE AGREEMENT ON PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR DEE
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